

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

25 OCTOBER 1983

Lebanon

Rescue Work, Casualty Toll — U.S. Marines continuing rescue operations in the rubble of their shattered headquarters were placed on alert when they were subjected to sniper fire early on 25 October, AFP reported. Meanwhile, the death toll from the explosions rose to 197 Marines and 54 French soldiers, according to Beirut radio.

Responsibility, Allegations — Another Lebanese Muslim group — the "Islamic Jihad Organization" — claimed responsibility for the attacks on the U.S. and French headquarters, announcing in a telephone call to AFP that the operation followed its earlier bomb attack on the U.S. Embassy. The group is neither Iranian, nor Syrian, nor Palestinian but consists of Lebanese Muslims who are "soldiers of God and in love with death" and who wish to rid Lebanon of all foreign forces and establish an Islamic republic, the caller declared. In a related development, French journalist Eric Rouleau revealed that a Shi'ite official told him a month ago that a Shi'ite suicide squad was planning to attack the French and U.S. forces in Lebanon, according to the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon.

The Command Council of the Phalangist Lebanese Forces blamed Syria for the bombings, stating in a communique broadcast by Radio Free Lebanon that accusations of Iranian or local involvement in the "massacres" should not hide the "truth regarding the Syrian role in planning, implementing, and distributing roles to all those agents who are numerous on the local scene." The Israeli deputy prime minister and UN ambassador likewise implicated Syria, according to IDF and Jerusalem radios.

Responding to the White House announcement that the United States is studying the possibility of Syrian involvement in the bombings, a responsible Syrian source cited by SANA said the U.S. statement is "irresponsible" and indicates that U.S. officials are seeking to justify their inability to ascertain the facts by producing a scapegoat. "We do not hesitate to admit what we do and we do not care if others accuse us of what we did not do, particularly if the accusation comes within the framework of a continuous policy hostile to Syria," the official added. In other Syrian comment, the daily *Tishrin* viewed the attacks as part of the Lebanese National Resistance's struggle against occupation forces and of the civil war which is continuing despite the cease-fire agreement because of cease-fire violations "by the Phalangist Army and militias" backed by the United States, SANA reported. While Damascus radio described the explosions in Beirut as "terrible" and provided detailed coverage of the affair, the radio warned the United States against using "any pretext" to escalate its military involvement in Lebanon. The radio also accused the Phalangists of seeking excuses to escalate Western military intervention and claimed that the United States is "enthusiastic" about a large-scale Israeli military strike in the region.

Other Reaction — The Security Arrangements Committee, which comprises representatives of the Lebanese Army, the Lebanese Front, the National Salvation Front, and the Amal Movement, condemned the explosions in a statement broadcast by Beirut radio. Nevertheless, Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt warned that such acts "could well continue" if the United States maintains its military presence in the area and continues its support for the policy of the Lebanese Government, according to Radio Free Lebanon.

Baghdad Voice of PLO radio said that, although the PLO does not wish death for anyone, the bomb blasts in Beirut were neither tragic nor criminal because the United States must "suffer the consequences" of placing its troops in combat positions in Lebanon.

Moscow Radio's World Service in English warned that the United States intends to respond to the bombings in a "bellicose" manner.

European Commitment — France will remain faithful to its undertakings in Lebanon, President Francois Mitterrand declared on his return to France at a press conference reported by Paris radio. Italian Defense Minister Giovanni Spadolini likewise ruled out a withdrawal of Italian troops, stating that Italy cannot turn its back on Lebanon and friendly nations, according to ANSA. On the other hand, the Athens paper *Elevtherotipia* reported that Greece may reconsider its decision to send military observers to supervise the cease-fire.

National Dialogue, PSP Conditions — President Amin al-Jumayyil will visit Bern on 29 October for talks with the Swiss president prior to going to Geneva for the National Dialogue Conference, according to a Swiss-Lebanese joint statement broadcast by Beirut radio. In Syria, a PSP official stated that in order to make the dialogue a success the Lebanese Army and Phalangists must completely abide by the cease-fire, the government must revoke its decision to impose press censorship, and the authorities must lift the curfew in Beirut. In his statement, broadcast by Damascus radio, the official also expressed concern over the stockpiling of heavy weapons by the Army and the Phalangists, which exposes "their premeditated intention to reignite the war and attack the nationalists." Earlier, Radio Monte Carlo reported that the leaders of the National Salvation Front — Walid Junblatt, Sulayman Franjiyah, and Rashid Karami — are expected to meet in Damascus shortly to formulate a unified stand for the National Dialogue Conference.

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian Offensive — Reporting on the latest offensive in the northern sector, Iranian military communiques broadcast by

Tehran radio stated that on 24 October Iranian forces captured several more villages and heights and shot down an Iraqi plane. The communiques maintained that during this phase of the offensive Iraq has suffered over 1,600 killed and 210 captured. The radio also contended that Iranian forces "crushed" an Iraqi counterattack in the northern sector on 24 October, killing or wounding at least 200. On the other hand, an Iraqi military communique broadcast by Baghdad radio stated that Iraqi forces repulsed Iran's latest attack, killing 1,500 Iranians.

Iraqi Missile Attacks — The director general of foreign affairs in the Iranian Foreign Ministry "strongly criticized" international bodies such as the United Nations and the International Red Cross for their silence on Iraqi long-range missile attacks on civilian targets in Iran, referring specifically to the 22 October attack on Masjed Soleyman, IRNA reported. Meanwhile, President Saddam Husayn was cited by INA as stating that Iraq will continue to strike at the enemy, including "targets deep inside Iran."

Japan-Iran Petrochemical Project — Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe revealed that the Iraqi Government officially notified the Japanese ambassador that the Japan-Iran joint petrochemical project in Bandar Khomeyni will not be exempted from attack, according to KYODO. As a result, the Japanese

company responsible for the project stated that work will not resume so long as danger continues. Japan has appealed to Iraq not to attack the project and to Iran to both guarantee the project's safety and to ensure no further escalation of the war, the agency reported.

PLO Affairs

Syrian and Fatah opposition forces in northern Lebanon attacked pro-'Arafat positions in the Bibnin, Al-Minyah, 'Adwi, and Bhannin areas, but were repulsed, according to Radio Free Lebanon. In another incident, Syrian artillery in the Bibnin area shelled pro-'Arafat positions to the northeast of the Nahr al-Barid camp, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported, while Voice of Lebanon said the shelling killed four Fatah members. North Lebanon Voice of Palestine radio also noted the incident, reporting that the 'Arafat forces first stopped attempts by Fatah dissident and PFLP-General Command forces to advance, after which the General Command began shelling from positions in Syrian-controlled territory. On the other hand, a Fatah opposition spokesman, cited by Radio Monte Carlo, denied that the PFLP-General Command and opposition forces launched an attack in the area, declaring instead that 'Arafat forces had attacked opposition positions but the attack had been foiled.

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AFP: Several Hundred Civilians Killed in Soviet Attacks
BK251113 Hong Kong AFP in English 1036 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Islamabad, Oct 25 (AFP) — Several hundred civilians, including many children, were killed recently in air raids, artillery fire and a subsequent massacre by Soviet troops in the small town of Estalef, 40 kms (25 miles) north of Kabul, Western diplomatic sources said today, quoting survivors of the raids. The attacks, which took place from October 12 to 17, left half of the historic town in ruins and its central bazaar completely destroyed, the sources said. Several of the survivors who reached Kabul said Soviet troops who entered the town after the attacks massacred at least 12 children with bayonets, then pillaged houses, according to the diplomats.

The sources said a large number of bodies remained under the rubble of Estalef, one of Afghanistan's oldest cities. The attack was said to have been part of a major Soviet and Afghan Army operation aimed at rebels in the Shonali Plateau which separates the Kabul region from the Hindu Kush Mountains in the north.

National Fatherland Front Issues Statement
LD230305 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Statement issued by National Fatherland Front Central Council on 22 October]

[Text] The victory of the April Revolution has inflicted a crushing blow to the plundering interests of reaction and imperialism and, so doing, has aroused the frenzied anger of all satanic forces of the world.

It was not long afterward that frenzied efforts were started in all capitals of international conspiracy, from Washington to Peking, and the undeclared war against our country's people, revolution, territorial integrity, national independence, and sovereignty got under way.

Warmongering U.S. imperialism, with the help of its allies and servants, in order to maintain its domination and military superiority in the world and to restore the cold war, used the revolutionary changes in our country as a pretext for increasing tension, intensifying the arms race, and undertaking an unprecedented arming of Pakistan as the gendarme of the region, springboard of aggression against Afghanistan, and a threat to its other neighbors.

The enemies of our revolution, homeland, and people, in continuation of their plots and conspiracies, are continuously striving, especially under the pretext of the presence of the so-called Afghan refugees in neighboring countries, to interfere in the internal affairs of the DRA and to organize further military interventions in our country. They prevented the return of those nomad compatriots, who as a long-standing tradition were engaged in seasonal migrations on the other side of the country's borders. They closed the way for the return of those compatriots, who, prior to the revolution, due to difficult economic conditions, went abroad, especially to Iran, to work and earn their living. A number of compatriots also left the country as a result of the

black despotic rule of Amin and his band and the false and seductive propaganda of the lackeys of reaction and imperialism, distorting the truths and realities of our revolution and homeland.

The U.S. Administration, Chinese hegemonists, Pakistani militarists, and other reactionary forces of the region and the world, contrary to all accepted international norms, used these compatriots for vast political dealings and purposes. Several military and terrorist training camps, under the name of refugee camps, were set up on Pakistani territory. Cast out, low, and wicked elements and the representatives of defeated ruling circles were put in charge of terrorist and destructive bands—people who, even prior to the revolution or as a result of the revolution, have sought refuge in the bosom of the reaction and imperialism and whose interests were contrary to those of our masses.

Internal and external counterrevolution dragged these deceived people to military and terrorist training camps; and, arming and sending them to our country for bloodshed and sabotage, they committed inhuman crimes against our homeland and people.

Imposter monarchists and recognized CIA spies have now assumed religious garb. They put the name of jihad on terrorism, destruction, theft, and robbery, and they misused the beliefs and honorable religious traditions of our people.

At the same time, Pakistani and Iranian reaction are trying to use Afghan counterrevolutionaries as a reserve force against the opposition and national movements of these countries and in fighting and hostile acts against neighboring countries.

Pakistani efforts to send these elements to India for espionage and sabotage and the forced sending of Afghans to the fronts of the fratricidal war between Iran and Iraq and against the Iranian Kurds are examples of such inhuman and satanic behavior.

The fact is that these imposters, under the name of refugees, have gained enormous wealth. Our compatriots outside the country are either dying in hardship or are being sent to our country to shed the blood of their innocent brothers and sisters, and where their ultimate destiny is defeat by our Armed Forces.

Disease, hunger, insult, violation of human rights, and humiliations are everyday facts in refugee camps in Pakistan. Distribution of identity cards to Afghans living in Iran for use [words indistinct], which no honorable Afghan will accept, while Iranian reaction has strictly forbidden marriage, selling and buying, and other contacts with Afghans.

Fortunately, the PDPA and the DRA Government have always humanely and realistically treated those who unwittingly have stood against the interests of the people or have sought refuge abroad.

The general amnesty decree of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium dated 18 June 1981, according to which all those who lay down their weapons and voluntarily surrender to government organs and those who have been separated from the fatherland as a result of the propaganda of the enemies—including those who have participated in counterrevolutionary activities, if they return to the homeland for [words indistinct]—will be pardoned,

is an example of the reality that, contrary to all the lies and fabrications, there is no obstacle to the honorable return of our deceived compatriots to their homeland to work and live.

The continuing surrender to the government by armed groups and the return of compatriots, despite all obstacles, is evidence of the honesty of our party and government in honoring its pledges.

The DRA NFF, on behalf of hundreds of thousands of its collective and individual members, once again invite the deceived compatriots living abroad to listen to the kind call of Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, who has spent all of his life in the service of the toilers and who in his first message said to them: In the name of Afghan honor and pride and in the name of the homeland, awaken and return to the homeland.

We are fully confident that no power can divert our revolution from its path — from the path of serving the oppressed masses of the country.

Shame and disgrace will be the lot of those whose hands are stained with the blood of our innocent people.

Returnee Describes 'Awful Conditions' in Pakistan

LD231003 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0426 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Text] Kabul, Oct 22, BAKHTAR — Khodaidad, a former Afghan counterrevolutionary, narrated to a correspondent of *Haqiqat-e Enqelabe Sawr* that how and when he joined the band of the so-called "national liberation front" and why he surrendered himself to the security forces of the DRA.

He said that he was drawn to the band by one of the members of the band, Ishaq, in 1979. He said that he travelled to Pakistan first in 1979 and stayed there two weeks and brought back arms. Second time he went to Pakistan in 1982 for receiving military training in a secret camp and returned to Afghanistan in May 1983. Having seen the grim realities of the miserable life and the so-called refugees and the debauchery of bandit chiefs he had decided while already in Pakistan to surrender himself to authorities. And he did it as soon as he came to Kabul.

About Afghan emigres in Pakistan he said that they live under awful conditions. They suffer from shortage of food and lack of health care facilities.

The rate of infantile mortality is also high. The emigres live in camps under police supervision and are shot for not complying with the whims and caprices of Pakistani authorities. Most of them want to return to their homeland, Afghanistan, but the Pakistani authorities do not permit them to return to Afghanistan. However, the leaders of the counter-revolutionaries bathe in luxury and lead a life full of vice, cruelty and sin.

About his five-year experience with the counter-revolution, he said that the counter-revolutionary bands are neither fighting for Islam nor Islam is in danger in Afghanistan. As a matter of fact, he added, sabotages, subversion, the murder of innocent people

and the subversive actions committed by them against their own countrymen are contrary to Islamic principles.

40 'Counterrevolutionaries' Surrender in Parwan

LD231037 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Excerpt] A 40-man-strong armed group belonging to the Mawlawi Khalis band, who, as a result of the poisonous propaganda of the enemies of the revolution and homeland, had joined the rank of the counterrevolutionaries for a while, having realized the truth of the April Revolution as well as the humanitarian policies of the party and government and taking advantage of the general amnesty decree of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium, recently joined the people and revolutionary government in Parwan Province. They surrendered 27 assorted weapons, 4 ammunition rounds for recoilless guns, and a quantity of mortars and antitank ammunition.

'Counterrevolutionaries Crushed' in Qonduz, Konarhar

LD231020 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Text] A group of counterrevolutionary elements with their ringleader Alam, who had been terrorizing the people of (Tarbuz Gozar) village in Qonduz Province, was crushed recently by the officers and troops of Qonduz 117 Battalion and revolutionary guards. The headquarters of these enemies of the revolution, the homeland, and the people was destroyed.

A source in the Qonduz security force said several rockets and a quantity of assorted weapons and propaganda leaflets proving their links with outside counterrevolutionary bands were seized from these criminals.

Also another counterrevolutionary group, who for some time now has been disrupting the peaceful lives of the toiling people of Narang Subdistrict, Konarha Province, was crushed recently by sarandoy officers and troops. Their ringleader and his deputy were also crushed.

Delegation Departs for Sofia Trade Union Conference

LD241002 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0455 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Kabul, October 23 BAKHTAR — An Afghan delegation headed by Satar Pordeli, chairman of the Central Council of the Trade Unions of the DRA, left here today for Sofia to participate in an international conference of peace and trade unions held in the People's Republic of Bulgaria. Over a hundred delegations of the world will participate in this conference.

USSR, Bulgaria Participate in Kabul Seminar

LD230752 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0434 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Text] Kabul, Oct. 22, BAKHTAR — A two-day international seminar of democratic and progressive forces on struggle for peace and social progress was inaugurated here today.

The message of the Central Committee of the PDPA was read by Saleh Mohammad Ziray, member of Politburo and secretary of the PDPA CC and president of the Central Council of the National Fatherland Front. Welcoming the participants of the seminar, the message assessed it as a great event which is the exponent of the profound nationalist friendship which links our parties, states and our peoples.

Later, Saleh Mohammad Ziray talked on the significance of such a seminar in which the representatives of Afghanistan, the Soviet Union and Bulgaria have participated. He added that today we badly need the unity of the forces of peace, progress and social justice for counter-acting the subversive actions, committed by the reactionary and imperialist forces aiming at crushing the national federal land [as received] movement.

Vanka Invanova, member of the Executive Committee of the Bulgarian National Fatherland Front, also talked on the experience of Bulgarian front.

Seminar Ends 24 October

LD250739 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Kabul, October 24, BAKHTAR — The two-day international seminar of democratic and progressive forces on struggle for peace and social progress ended here today.

The delegates of Afghanistan, Bulgaria and the Soviet Union, exchanged views on the significance of consolidating the unity of the forces of peace, progress and social justice for counteracting the subversive actions of the reactionary and imperialist forces.

The participants of the seminar expressed their concern as regards the danger of further intensification of arms race and especially the nuclear weapons. They explained that the threat to peace in Europe and the world and the shameless interventions of imperialism especially that of the United States in the internal affairs of Asian, African and Latin American countries and the increase of the danger of nuclear war have negatively affected the socio-economic conditions of the mankind in the world.

Karmal Expresses Congratulations on UN Anniversary

Perez de Cuellar Cabled

LD240935 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0508 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Kabul, October 23, BAKHTAR — Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the Central Committee of the PDPA and president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA, has sent a congratulatory telegramme to Javier Perez de Cuellar on the occasion of 38th anniversary of United Nations.

The message confirms again the full respect of the DRA to the principles of the Charter of that organisation and its lofty aims and added that the DRA as a peace-loving country believes that progress, welfare and security of mankind are only possible in a peaceful condition and the DRA will make all efforts and endeavours to strengthen the cause of peace.

Message adds that in spite of sincere efforts of United Nations Organisation in the implementation of the aims of the Charter of that organization, unfortunately world peace and security are jeopardised by imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism, apartheid, Zionism and international reaction.

Babrak Karmal while appreciating the efforts of UN and personally of its secretary general for finding a political solution for the situation around Afghanistan, in his message expressed the hope that this organisation as the demonstration of the noblest aims of mankind in preserving world peace and developing international cooperation will ever further be strengthened.

Message Issued

LD240948 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0514 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Kabul, October 23, BAKHTAR — Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA CC and president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA, has issued a message on the occasion of the 38th anniversary of the foundation of the United Nations Organisation which falls on October 24.

The foundation of the UNO, the message points out, is being marked this year under conditions that the international situation is being aggravated at an unprecedented scale by the imperialist circles in an attempt to revive the policy of cold war, intensification of tension, worsening of international relations, whipping up conflicts and confrontation whereby peace, the irrefutable and just right of the mankind, is exposed to danger.

The message recalled that the ensurance of lasting world peace constitutes one of the central issues in the United Nations Charter. This great issue is faced with the aggressive and irresponsible policy of the imperialist countries especially that of the U.S. warmongering circles whose policies are based on the revival of cold war, nuclear arms race, intensification of international tension, military confrontation and the policy of the position of strength.

The message condemned the programme for installation of American nuclear weapons, the cruise and Pershing missiles, in Western Europe which is an outstanding indication of U.S. aggressive policy which is faced with the strong denunciation of the forces of peace and progress throughout the world especially in Western Europe.

The message views that the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan demands from the imperialist countries to stop its predatory activity against the developing countries. It believes that the new international economic order can ensure the interests of the developing countries. The Government of the DRA attaches great importance to renew the efforts at the highest level for the strengthening of the world cooperation in the sphere of economic development which constitutes one of the major tasks lying before the United Nations Organisation.

Following an anti-imperialist policy, the message emphasizes, the DRA hopes that the UNO would take effective measures in

the realisation of the inalienable rights of the people of Palestine usurped by imperialism and Zionism.

Pursuing a policy based on the free judgement in the international affairs, a fruitful and joint cooperation, peaceful co-existence with all the countries of world, the DRA participates actively and positively in the activities of the UNO and will not spare any efforts for the fulfilment of the humane objectives of the world organisation, the message concludes.

AFP: Tibetans Protest as Border Talks With PRC Begin
BK240942 Hong Kong AFP in English 0702 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] New Delhi, Oct 24 (AFP) — Tibetan refugees began a protest march to the Chinese Embassy here today as top Chinese and Indian officials began their fourth round of talks on their long-standing border dispute.

About 200 placard-carrying refugees met at the Boat Club lawns overlooking Parliament House before forming the procession to the embassy which was heavily guarded by Indian police.

The talks, which are being held at the Indian Foreign Ministry, will review differences in each other's position on the Himalayan frontier stretching from Ladakh and Aksai Chin in the west to Arunachal Pradesh in the northeast of India.

During the week-long meeting they will also study ways of improving economic and cultural exchanges which have shown signs of picking up during the last two years.

The Chinese delegation to the talks is headed by Vice-Foreign Minister Gong Dafei. Secretary in the Indian Foreign Ministry K.S. Bajpai is leading the Indian delegation which also includes ambassador in Beijing, A.P. Venkateswaran.

Rao Addresses Indian-French Nuclear Energy Seminar
BK250932 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, said India will continue to resist external interference in its program of developing nuclear energy. We have a well-defined policy and refuse to accept imported wisdom in the field. Mr Rao was addressing the 4-day Indo-French seminar which began in New Delhi yesterday. He said, like France, India also accepts the need for self-discipline. But we attach equal importance to non-proliferation. Mr Rao suggested that India and France can cooperate in a number of fields besides nuclear energy. A team of senior French officials, experts, and journalists are attending the seminar.

Home Minister on Akali Talks, Punjab, Assam
BK241643 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Excerpts] The home minister, Mr P.C. Sethi, has said that the government will not mind again extending an invitation to the Akali leaders to resume talks to arrive at a settlement on their demands. He said the doors for negotiations on the Punjab issue are open. He was speaking at a meeting of the consultative committee of members of parliament attached to his ministry in New Delhi today. The minister hoped that having regard to the situation in Punjab, the Akali leaders will not make suspension of their agitation a matter of prestige. He hoped they will take steps as suggested by all consultative committee members to suspend the agitation.

Referring to the center-state relations, the minister said that the Sarkaria Commission has been entrusted with the work of reviewing the issue. The consensus report of the Srinagar conclave of opposition parties has been referred to the commission. The minister also said that the government is not interested in toppling any state government.

Regarding the setting up of tribunals in Assam to identify foreign nationals, Mr Sethi said that the guidelines are being framed; they will be ready in a week. He said nonofficial advisory committees will be set up to assist the police in the detection of foreign nationals.

Armed 'Extremist' Arrested in New Delhi 24 Oct
BK251253 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] An extremist was arrested in Delhi yesterday. A Pakistan-made revolver and country-made pistol and some ammunition were found in his bag. The additional police commissioner, Mr Nikhil Kumar, told newsmen in New Delhi today that interrogation revealed that the extremist was detailed to kill the Nirankari [Sikh sect] chief.

Zia Asks Election Commission To Prepare for Elections*BK241640 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT
24 Oct 83*

[Text] President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq has asked the Election Commission to accelerate its activities and prepare itself to hold elections whenever an announcement for this purpose is made. He stated this during a meeting in Islamabad today with the chief election commissioner, Justice S. A. Nusrat, and all four members of the commission—Justice S. Usman Ali Shah, Justice Mohammad Rafique Taran, Justice Abdul Qadir Chowdhury, and Justice Saiduzzaman Siddiqi. The minister for law and parliamentary affairs, Mr Sharifuddin Pirzada, was also present on the occasion. During the meeting, various aspects relating to the procedure of holding elections and the completion of electoral lists in all respects were discussed.

The commission informed the president that completion of electoral lists is a continuous process and those eligible voters whose names are not included in the electoral lists may contact the registration officers to ensure that their names are included in the lists. The commission will meet from 1 November in Islamabad to discuss ways to accelerate its activities.

Delhi: Over 4,000 Arrested During 10-Week Agitation*BK240947 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
24 Oct 83*

[Text] In Pakistan, over 4,000 people were arrested during 10 weeks of political agitation against the military rule. More than 2,500 are still in jail. Disclosing this to newsmen in Islamabad, a government spokesman said over 3,300 persons were detained in Sind alone. He said the police launched a crackdown last week in the Nawabshah District to seize illegal weapons. The Movement for Restoration of Democracy spokesman, Mr Iqbal Haidar, has again said that military troops and helicopters have been taking part in the crackdown.

DAWN on 'New, Dangerous Dimension' to Gulf War*GF220610 Karachi Dawn in English 16 Oct 83 p 7*

[Editorial: "Flashpoint in the Gulf?"]

[Text] The conflict in the Gulf has assumed a new and dangerous dimension with the war of words which has been taking place since last week on the future of the Strait of Hormuz. True, the report of the delivery of the five Super-Etendard fighters to Iraq, which sparked off the controversy in the first place, is now being denied by Baghdad. But in a way, the French planes appear to have become secondary, as the combatants and other parties have begun to formulate their stand on the issue of the free flow of oil through the Strait of Hormuz.

The latest round began when the Iraqi foreign minister issued a warning last week that his government would not accept a situation in which Iran continues to enjoy the smooth export of oil through the Gulf while Iraq is being denied a similar right. Although this has been the case since 1980 when the war began, Iraq's warning implies that Baghdad is now planning to act to deny Iran the right of passage through the Gulf, or to assert its right of free passage through the strait for resuming its oil exports. The Super-Etendards, when they are delivered to Iraq, will obviously give Iraq's warning a greater credibility by enhancing its capability to take military measures against Iranian shipping and the oil terminal at Khark Island. In case of Iraqi action, Iran has threatened to retaliate by blocking the Strait of Hormuz, so that the flow of oil from the other Gulf states is also stopped.

The situation could fast develop into a major crisis by drawing in other states. Thus, the Saudi Arabian defence minister has made it clear that the Gulf nations would defend shipping in the waterway if it is disrupted by Iran. The joint military exercises the Gulf Cooperation Council is holding in the region would appear to confirm the determination of Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, Kuwait, Oman and the UAE to back up their warning with military action if they feel their interest is threatened. Even more significant is the reiteration by the United States and its allies of their pledge to keep open the navigation lanes for international shipping in the Gulf region. In this context, the report that an American naval task force comprising three warships is on its way to the Indian Ocean is quite disturbing.

As it is, Iran is already reported to have moved its entire air power close to the Strait of Hormuz. As the level of military preparedness in the region rises, the risk of a conflagration also goes up and even a minor incident could spark off a serious crisis. Moreover a conflict involving all these states would be bad enough as it would widen the theatre of war and threaten the stability and security of the region. But worse would be the danger of the counter-intervention by Moscow which any American military action is most likely to invite.

The Western powers which cannot be absolved of all responsibility for the Gulf war should be fully aware of the implications of their policies. France believes the Super-Etendards will play a deterrent role and help bring the war to an end. But this is doubtful. On the contrary, the super bombers might actually escalate the conflict by opening a new phase of economic warfare in which outside powers could be sucked in. It is important that a concerted effort is made to bring the Gulf war to an end before it enters a new phase. Meanwhile, the Super-Etendards, if they have not been supplied to Iraq so far, might be withheld for some time more while the United Nations, the Non-Aligned Movement or the OIC, whichever enjoys the confidence of both parties, should make a renewed attempt to arrange a cease-fire. If the conflict is allowed to escalate, the worst sufferers would be the states bordering on the Gulf.

President Khamene'i Comments on Lebanon Issue*LD241802 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT
24 Oct 83*

[Excerpts] A seminar of the Friday imams of all the provinces of the country opened today in Qom with the participation of Grand Ayatollah Montazeri, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Khamene'i, Friday imam of Tehran, and Friday imams from all over the country.

The Central News Unit reports that commenting on the impressive victories achieved by the Islamic combatants on the western fronts, the Friday imam of Tehran said: The Val-Fajr IV operations will be 100 percent successful. God willing, you will soon witness their brilliant results.

In another part of his speech, Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i, citing the Lebanon issue, said: A powerful and dynamic move has been organized by the Lebanese faithfuls in the north, south, and Beirut itself. The superpowers have created a situation in Lebanon that renders them unable to respond to their own peoples. Their treatment of the oppressed and innocent nations is such that they no longer frighten or intimidate anyone. The Lebanese people's current slogan is a legitimate one — the occupying Al-Quds forces must be expelled from the country and the Muslims must take over the running of the government.

Group Claims Responsibility for Beirut Destruction*GF241840 Tehran International Service in Arabic
1730 GMT 24 Oct 83*

[Text] A group known as the Free Revolutionary Islamic Movement [Al-Harakah ath-Thawriyah al-Hurrah al-Islamiyah] today claimed responsibility for the destruction of the headquarters of the U.S. and French intervention forces in Beirut. An unknown person has telephoned news agencies and said that two members of the Free Revolutionary Islamic Movement called Abu Mazin and Abu Fijan were martyred in yesterday's attack on the command headquarters of the U.S. and French intervention forces. He said that the movement will continue its struggle until Lebanon is liberated by the Lebanese Muslim revolutionaries. He said that the movement calls for the Palestinians' return to their homeland and for the liberation of Lebanon from the hegemony of the imperialist forces and the consolidation of the Islamic revolution in the Arab world.

Khamene'i Message to Libya's Jallud Reported*LD250149 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland
Arabic 0015 GMT 25 Oct 83*

[Text] Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud has received a message from Islamic Republic of Iran President 'Ali Khamene'i. The message said in part: We must admit that we are facing critical circumstances in the area and that conditions in the Islamic and Arab regions, by comparison with what they used to be, are not satisfactory and do not presently give rise to hope.

Despite the activity of the progressive forces in the area, the anti-Zionist and imperialist front is in a state of deterioration and

flagging markedly with the rise of the reactionary and imperialist and Zionist policy. The Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, which at one time was a barrier to the policies of bargaining and capitulation, has reached its weakest state. The military framework of the PLO has become disjointed. Imperialism and reaction are trying to turn it into a weak political movement which seeks the solution of the Palestine issue on the basis of the Camp David programs and the rest of the capitulationist schemes.

The Al-Jumayyil regime with the aid of the external multinational forces has come to the firm decision to annihilate the Muslims and all the Lebanese progressive forces wholesale. The usurping Zionist state, after the crimes and massacres it committed against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples, earnestly works to annex southern Lebanon to the rest of the usurped Palestinian lands.

Despite the resolutions of the Baghdad conference and against the will of the Islamic nation, there is feverish activity in favor of restoring the treasonous regime ruling Egypt to the Arab fold. This without doubt means nothing more than accepting the disgraceful Camp David agreement.

On the basis of these facts, we hope that the progressive Arab countries will carry out their crucial responsibilities in these circumstances and warn those Arab and Muslim leaders who care about nothing except to protect and safeguard the interests of imperialism. It is a duty of all the states of the area, realizing the current sensitive circumstances, to use all their potential to prevent any aggression and conspiracy against Syria by imperialism and reaction. The Syrian position must be supported by all means.

Finally, with our belief that the fate of the war which has been imposed on us will decide the fate of the area, we, with the aid of God, are resolved to overthrow the hireling Saddam regime which is now in its death throes. Our people, armed with faith and readiness to be martyred and racing one another to the direct confrontation with imperialism, will not accept the imposition of trusteeship by any foreign force on the area. If their vital interests are exposed to danger, they will not hesitate to block the Strait of Hormuz.

In conclusion, we pray for victory for Islam and Muslims and defeat to the infidels and polytheists. We hope that the Islamic nation will once again defeat the crusader Western onslaught which it is witnessing today and score a resounding victory over it.

War Victories, Defeat of U.S. 'Conspiracies' Viewed*LD241304 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1130 GMT
24 Oct 83*

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The success of the first stage of Val-Fajr IV operations, which was achieved with the powerful arm and sincere belief of the combatants of Islam, is going to end the aggressive war waged by the Zionist regime of Iraq against the Islamic Republic of Iran by continuing further. With the final victory, imperialism will be

handed over to the court of history because the defeat of the Zionist regime of Iraq in its confrontation with the Islamic Revolution is, in fact, the defeat of the conspiracies of U.S. imperialism in the region. That being so, the U.S. strategy to concentrate all military forces and elements will prove worthless in practice. By this strategy, imperialism intends to impose an irresistible force in order to eliminate all possible resistance by the other party.

Therefore, it is on the basis of this line of thought that U.S. imperialism is mobilizing all available forces to help the war machine of the Zionist regime of Iraq so that it can force the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic Revolution from the arena by a surprise attack. However, imperialism has failed to take note of the effective presence of faith in every stage of battle on the war fronts in its review of power sources. This factor lends power and strength to the military equipment. That is why the faith of the Muslim combatants of Iran in God has opened the path of victory all the way from Fath ol-Mobin to the Val-Fajr operations.

Now that the first stages of the Val-Fajr IV operations have brought us the promise of future victories by the combatants of Islam over the blasphemous regime of Saddam, it is clear that the U.S. military strategy in instigating the aggressive war waged by Iraq against Iran has resulted in the political and economic disintegration of this regime in addition to failing to bring a victory for the Zionist regime of Saddam.

In fact, the U.S. military strategy against the Islamic Revolution and the Islamic Republic of Iran has, in practice, worked against itself. Relying on the presence of all the people, Iran has proved in this war that the Islamic Republic of Iran, despite all pressures, is a regime which is capable of surviving, or remaining steadfast, and of making progress in such a way that this regime will be able to act as a major axis in the international political scene, especially since the Islamic Revolution of Iran is in constant contact with the oppressed people of the world and particularly the oppressed people of the Middle East.

The spirit of this solidarity exists in the principles of Islam which are adopted by the Islamic Republic of Iran. This characteristic has caused the Islamic Republic of Iran to become a magnet attracting the oppressed nations over the passage of time. This has frightened the imperialist forces now more than ever before, which is why Robert McFarlane, head of the U.S. National Security Council, is now talking about the impact of the new tactics adopted in the region by the United States so that the Middle East will remain under U.S. domination by whatever means possible. But, the present movements in the Middle East have darkened the future of imperialism in the region since the Islamic Republic of Iran continues to advance the Islamic Revolution even during the imposed war by the mercenary regime of Iraq.

The Muslim revolutionaries of Lebanon, believing in their final victory, continue to fight against the presence of the occupying Zionist forces and against the U.S., French, and all other inter-

fering forces. In Iraq, Egypt, and Sudan, the Islamic revolutionary movements have risen against the regimes ruling over them, which are subservient to imperialism. All these movements have frightened imperialism now more than ever before. It is a permanent statement of history that unified powerful forces relying on faith will always be victorious in the fight against oppression and blasphemy.

Base Headquarters Issues Communiques on Val-Fajr IV

Communique No 12

LD241151 Tehran Domestic in Persian 1030 GMT
24 Oct 83

[Communique No 12 of Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada Headquarters]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The forces of Islam, in the present stage of the operations, attacked enemy positions northwest of Marivan and liberated the important heights of (Kolu), 1,047, 1,521, 1,672 and the slopes of the heights of (Garmak), the heights of (?Kolucheh-e Dow) and Hargineh Heights situated deep inside Iraqi territory and raised the flag of monotheism atop these heights while chanting: God is great. Our courageous and dedicated combatants also liberated the Iraqi villages of (Kolu), (Nazreh), (?Govabeh and Narzadeh) and took their positions in these regions.

East of Marivan, the combatants of Islam liberated the Iranian villages of Khanom Kohnah and Jamshidabad and the town of Kahrizeh and advanced toward enemy positions while dealing heavy blows to them. Up to now, more than 1,500 of the Zionist Iraqi forces have been killed or wounded in this stage of the operations and a number of them have been captured by the forces of Islam, of which more than 200 have been transferred to locations behind the front line.

The proud blasphemy fighters of the army of Islam continue to crush enemy positions and to advance toward preset objectives. Our forces have completely annihilated two companies of the 1st Battalion of the 5th Brigade, the [name indistinct] commando company and the command base of the (As-Somud) commando forces and have dealt heavy blows to other units of the enemy forces in the region. Tens of vehicles and personnel carriers belonging to the enemy have been destroyed by the forces of Islam and considerable amounts of equipment and machinery have been taken by our forces, undamaged.

The selfless soldiers of the army of monotheism, having destroyed the positions, equipment, and machinery of the Zionist enemy along a region extending more than 150 km, continue their ceaseless battle.

[Signed] Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada Base, headquarters for the joint operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Communique No 13

*LD241759 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT
24 Oct 83*

[Communique No 13 of Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada Headquarters]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. In the second phase of Operation Val-Fajr IV, which commenced at 2400 last night, codenamed "O God, O God, O God," our forces attacked the heart of enemy positions northwest of Marivan and southwest of Baneh, inside Iraq. Our forces advanced several kilometers on the southwest axes of Baneh toward predetermined targets and completely liberated the important heights of 1,407, 1,521, 1,672, Koruzeh II, (?Kolu), Hargeneh, and further areas of Garmak heights; two asphalt roads between Kuklan and Panjwin and Garmak and Panjwin; the Iraqi villages of (?Kolu), (?Narzeh), (?Govabeh), and (?Narzaneh); and the Iranian villages of (Khanumkohnah), (Gashniabad), and the town of Kahrizeh.

During this operation, more than 1,600 of the forces of the Zionist regime of Baghdad were killed or wounded, bringing the total number of enemy killed or wounded since the start of Operation Val-Fajr IV to more than 5,900. Also, more than 210 enemy personnel were captured by the mighty combatants of Islam, bringing the total number of Iraqi prisoners during Val-Fajr IV, who have so far been evacuated, to more than 900.

During this phase of the operation, dozens of enemy tanks, personnel carriers, and vehicles were destroyed by the fire of the forces of Islam.

In the Sar Dasht border sector, during the second phase of their victorious operation — which resulted in the liberation of the strategic heights of Bizhveh, 1,615, Bardehsur, and Kuhrueh heights; and the villages of (Bizhveh), (?Zinosheykhi), Genavi, (?Sanju), (?Rashkan), (Doleh), and (?Niaran) — the combatants of Islam today strengthened their positions and inflicted losses and casualties on the enemy.

[Signed] Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada Headquarters, center of joint operations of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,510

*LD241851 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT
24 Oct 83*

[Communique No 1,510 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Continuing the victorious Val-Fajr IV operation yesterday, last night, and this morning, the combatants of Islam liberated several more heights and sectors and foiled all enemy attempts to recapture the liberated areas.

Retaining control and superiority, the defenders of the Islamic Revolution are currently stationed in and are defending their new

positions. They are also mopping up the liberated areas, collecting captured equipment, and evacuating POW's.

At 1035 this morning, an enemy plane was shot down in the Marivan sector by one of the fighter planes of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran. This brings the total number of enemy planes shot down since the start of the Val-Fajr IV operation to two.

In the Piranshahr and Hajj 'Umran operational theater yesterday, an exchange of artillery and mortar fire continued. Our forces destroyed an enemy ammunition dump and two trucks carrying enemy personnel.

In the Pavch operational sector, a severe exchange of fire was in progress. In that sector, four enemy vehicles and an ammunition dump were set on fire.

On the Ilam and Bakhtaran border fronts, our forces destroyed three trucks, four observations posts, several infantry trenches, and an enemy tanker.

In the Abadan and Khorramshahr operational theater yesterday, our forces destroyed an enemy vehicle and more than ten slit trenches and fox holes on the other side of the Arvand Rud, killing or injuring a number of Saddamists.

Yesterday, the city of Abadan was the target of long-range enemy weapons on numerous occasions, which resulted in damage to three shops, a school, and an office building.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

IRNA: Iraqis Launch Futile Counterattack 24 Oct

GF241717 Tehran IRNA in English 1700 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Hamzeh Seyyed Ash-Shohada Hq. Oct. 24, IRNA — Over 200 Ba'hist soldiers were killed or wounded in a futile counterattack bid to recapture the regions liberated by the Islamic forces in the Val Fajr-4 theatre Monday.

The counterattack bid was launched around noon today by the Iraqi forces, after they had regrouped in attempts to retake positions liberated and now under the control of Islamic forces of Iran. However, Iran's combatants severely repulsed the attempt inflicting heavy casualties and losses upon the enemy troops as well as forcing them to retreat to their original positions.

Prime Minister Participates in Friday Prayers**Remarks on Hormuz Issue**

*LD211824 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT
21 Oct 83*

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi took part in Friday prayers in the city of Sari which, because of the huge number of participants, were held in that city's sports stadium, at noon today. He delivered a speech between the two prayers.

The prime minister said: During the past month, telexes sent by news agencies were full of questions asking whether Iran would be able to close the Strait of Hormuz. We reply: You have seen how we make the impossible possible. The shah, who relied on the arsenals of the United States, collapsed and the town of Khorramshahr was retaken. These all seemed impossible to you but we made them happen. Now, we have the power, originating from the belief of the nation, to achieve the impossible.

Comments on Tudeh Arrests

LD211928 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT
21 Oct 83

[Text] Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, having taken part in a meeting of local Babol officials this morning, spoke at the Friday prayer assembly. Alluding to the importance and might of people's forces, he noted the uncovering of the treason and arrest of the treacherous Tudeh Party members, saying that a party with a 40 year-old record, a party relying on one of the biggest espionage organizations in the world, namely, the KGB, was toppled by these hezbollahi forces, that is, the sons of you people.

They treated this mercenary party in such a careful, sensitive, subtle, and decisive manner that it made everyone wonder. Citing the plots hatched by the global arrogance against the Islamic Republic, he said there has long been a tie between the socialists and Zionist Israel; global arrogance is daily resorting to a new ploy against the divine Islamic Republic order. Consequently, for a while, it tried to defeat the mammoth movement by our nation by resorting to the old ploy of creating division between the Shi'ites and the Sunnis. However, the unity between the Shi'ite and Sunni brothers and the display of courage by the Islamic combatants foiled these plots.

He then referred to the recent victories achieved by the Islamic combatants during Val-Fajr IV, saying that these victories show our Islamic Revolution's might in controlling the counterrevolution and domestic political issues. In another part of his speech during the Friday prayers, alluding to the rapid economic changes in the country, he said: Today we are in a position whereby all our factories are engaged in production. As for our foreign exchange reserves, they are enjoying the best conditions since the revolution.

According to a Central News Unit report, the prime minister and his entourage left Sari for Tehran this evening after a 2-day visit to Mazandaran. Before leaving Sari, the prime minister attended a gathering at the governor-general's office, in which a group of Islamic Revolution devotees as well as the families of Sari, Behshahr, Neka, and (Gha'em Shahr) took part. He is reported to have delivered a speech there.

Majlis Speaker Denounces Iraqi Attacks on Civilians

LD231245 Tehran IRNA in English 0944 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Text] Tehran Oct 23 (IRNA) — Majlis Speaker Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani Sunday said that whenever the Islamic

forces achieved victory Saddam Husayn commits acts of insanity which in turn [word indistinct] the incapability of the Ba'thist forces.

The speaker who was addressing an open session of the Majlis (parliament) said that such crimes (attacks on the civilians) indicates not only the weakness of the Iraqi Ba'thist forces but also impotency of the superpowers who supplied such weapons to the Saddam's regime.

Rafsanjani was commenting on the Iraqi attack against the civil areas in the Iranian cities of Dezful, Masjed Soleyman and Marivan on Saturday in which several hundreds of innocent people were martyred or wounded. The savage attacks of the Iraqis also inflicted considerable losses on the property of the civilians.

The speaker dubbed the attack against the civilians as weakness of the Ba'thist forces and pointed out that while the Islamic combatants are busy in purging the strategic heights from the counterrevolutionaries and enemies of the Islamic Republic the Ba'thist forces are making civil areas the target of brutal attacks.

But, he warned, such crimes have been recorded into the account of those powers who supplied such lethal weapons to the Iraqi regime and said that one day a suitable response will be given to them.

He blasted the silence of the international organisations and world media on such sensitive issues and crimes, against the defenceless Iranian population.

What is more important, he said, is the patience and will of resistance of the people. He said, we are proud of such stand of the people.

He said that such crimes also indicate that Saddam is using his last card in this game of war which he started on the initiative of his masters.

But, he said, we will wait until the last step to be taken by our combatants to free Iranian and Iraqi nations from such heinous crimes.

UN Criticized for Silence on 'Iraqi Crimes'

LD241053 Tehran IRNA in English 0912 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 24 IRNA — An official of the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran Sunday strongly criticised the world bodies including the United Nations and the International Red Cross Society on their silence over the Iraqi Ba'thist crimes against the defenceless and innocent people of Iran who were the targets of the brutal attacks by Iraqi forces.

Director General of the International Affairs of the Foreign Ministry, Mohammad Taqi Mahallati, said that the Eastern superpower has supplied Iraq with long-range missiles that could hit civilian areas deep inside Iran.

He was referring to the Iraqi missile attack on Masjed Soleyman, a city which is almost 120 kilometres away from the Iraqi border and which was attacked by Ba'hist forces through ground-to-ground missiles on [word indistinct]. Scores of people were martyred and wounded and extensive damage was inflicted on properties of the people.

Mahallati said that such an attack is an open violation of the Geneva Convention, adding that the United Nations had not given priority to the issue for study.

Mahallati said that Iraqi regime committed such crimes just to weaken the morale of the people living in western and southern Iran and also to push Iran toward a proposed peace so that the present offensive by the Islamic forces may be stopped.

The Foreign Ministry official said that the case was referred to the United Nations but no response was given.

He said that the U.N. delegation which visited Iran and Iraq in April this year had prepared a short report on its observations which made it clear that the Iraqi regime had violated all basic human principles during the imposed war while Iran observed Islamic principles. But the U.N. did not follow up the report which in turn encouraged the Iraqi regime to commit more crimes, he said.

Now, he added, the Islamic combatants are in a position to crush the regime in Baghdad but the international organisations are trying to keep the falling aggressor regime in power.

Mahallati said the Security Council is now trying to hold a meeting on the issue of free passage for ships in the Persian Gulf adding that the council first should study and condemn the Iraqi regime for its violation of the Geneva Convention and all other international rules and regulations.

Musavi on Victories Against 'Counterrevolutionaries' *LD231238 Tehran IRNA in English 0954 GMT 23 Oct 83*

[Text] Tehran Oct 23 IRNA — The significance of operations of the Iranian combatants against the counterrevolutionary groups of Komeleh and the outlawed Kurdistan Democratic Party in Shiler region is not less than the victory of the Iranian forces in Val-Fajr offensive, said Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi here today.

Speaking after a cabinet ministers session he added that in their latest offensive, the Iranian combatants have inflicted heavy casualties on the counterrevolutionaries and have taken many of their headquarters.

As for the latest savage attacks of the Iraqi forces on civilian areas of Dezful and Masjed Soleyman on Saturday he said that these crimes were similar to those committed by the toppled Shah in his final days. The Iraqi regime, he added, was going through its final days.

During the meeting the minister of Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) Mohsen Rafiqdust, presented a report on the

situation of the warfronts and the latest offensive, Val-Fajr-4 launched in the northwestern sector of the warfronts in the early hours of Thursday.

Commenting on the gains of the Iranian forces in their latest operation, the prime minister said that they took the enemy by surprise and took control of the most important strategic point.

Commenting further on the Iraqi missile attack on Dezful and Masjed Soleyman which has claimed lives of more than one hundred innocent people, injured scores of others and has caused devastation, prime minister said, "The Iraqi Ba'histis should know that Iran will continue the war until the final victory and materialisation of all objectives and rights of the Iranians and will not hesitate a moment in attaining these goals."

'Counterrevolutionaries Flushed' From Six Villages *LD212220 Tehran IRNA in English 1944 GMT 21 Oct 83*

[Excerpt] Tehran Oct 21, IRNA — Another dispatch from Seyyed ash-Shohada military headquarters today said that counterrevolutionary groups had been flushed out from six villages near the Iranian border town of Marivan as part of the Val Fajr-4 thrust. During the operations many military vehicles, personnel carriers and mortar launchers of the Iraqi forces were destroyed.

Rebel Base, Heights Near Sar Dasht Captured *LD231150 Tehran IRNA in English 0950 GMT 23 Oct 83*

[Text] Sar Dasht, Oct 23 IRNA — The Islamic forces today captured the heights overlooking the anti-revolutionaries' (Bijveh) base and village, 15 km south of Sar Dasht.

(Bijveh) was one of the most important bases of the mercenary rebels where they held joint conferences and gatherings.

The mountain as well as the (Minu Sheikhi) heights fell to the Islamic forces at 5:30 a.m. (local time) today after defeating stiff resistance by the rebels.

In a separate operation in the region, Iranian combatants also captured a 2,000-metre-high mountain located between the (Dol Niri) and Laklak heights.

With the capture of these heights, the Islamic forces have pursued all the strategic heights in the Sar Dasht region and the counterrevolutionaries have been forced to escape from the region.

Radio Iran Reports Imami Faction Members Shot *GF221530 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian* *1330 GMT 22 Oct 83*

[Text] According to a report from the war fronts, 18 imami faction members who were carrying documents and proof against members of another faction within the government were killed by a group of armed assailants while going to the Mehran front. The reliable report adds that when their bodies were taken to the

morgue a guard noticed that they were all shot in the back. When he attempted to initiate an investigation and asked for explanations from those in charge, he was arrested. He has since disappeared.

Saddam Husayn Escapes 2 Assassination Attempts

GF241842 Tehran International Service in Arabic
1730 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Reports from Iraq say that Saddam, the leader of the Iraqi regime, has escaped two assassination attempts. In the first attempt, two Iraqi fighter planes tried to strike helicopters that carried Saddam and his entourage. The attempt, however, failed.

The second attempt occurred when Saddam repeatedly insulted one of his Army commanders on the Zarbatiyah front. As a result of the sharp reply to Saddam by this officer, Saddam became angry and shot him. Immediately, one of the military men present drew his gun to kill Saddam. However, Saddam's aides killed the military man.

Iraqi Commanders, Officers Executed After Coup Attempt

GF230615 Tehran International Service in Arabic
0400 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Text] After 70 Iraqi commanders and senior officers were detained for attempting a coup, four of them were executed immediately.

72 Iraqis Executed Following Army Mutiny

GF241848 Tehran International Service in Arabic
1730 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Following the mutiny in the 5th and 65th Brigades in the Army of Saddam's regime, units of the special forces were immediately sent to the mutiny area. Seventy-two soldiers who took part in the mutiny were executed in their barracks. After this bloody liquidation, the other members of the 5th and 65th Brigades were joined to 1 Corps of the Army of Saddam's regime.

Appeals Addressed to Iraqi Army, People

Warning Not To Resist

GF211402 Tehran International Service in Arabic
1228 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] "Those who have reneged after the guidance has become clear to them, it was Satan that tempted them." [Koranic verse] Persecuted men of the Iraqi Army, misled men of the Popular Army: Do not renege on your religion and the ethics of your nation by opposing the victorious Islamic army, and thus be like those who have been tempted by Satan and those who joined his

party. Do not try to resist the successful march of the faithful for the consequences will be dire. He who brandishes the sword of aggression and tyranny is killed by it, in the words of the leader of the faithful, 'Ali, may peace be upon him.

Appeal for Islamic Republic

GF211626 Tehran International Service in Arabic
1345 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Our proud Iraqi people: Our religious and human duty calls on us to struggle to eradicate the 'Aflaqis forever from our land, the land that they humiliated by their agency for the United States and the Soviet Union.

Sons of the martyr Husayn and the unjustly treated As-Sadr, arise to save our persecuted Iraq and our suffering people from the ambitions of the imperialist countries which plunder our resources — such as oil, sulphur, and hard currencies — through their criminal surrogate, the 'Aflaqi Saddam. [music]

Sons of 'Ali and 'Umar, sons of Husayn, sons of As-Sadr and Al-Badri, arise to welcome the lovers of Husayn, Muslims from Iraq and Iran. The victorious Islamic march is continuing and escalating until the criminal Saddam is toppled and the Islamic Republic of Iraq is established in the land of the Tigris and the Euphrates. Arise all of you, Arabs and Kurds, Sunnis and Shi'ites, and all the minorities of our Iraqi people, seize the golden opportunity provided to us by the Islamic Revolution under the leadership of the hope of the world's oppressed, Seyyed Imam Khomeyni, may his shadow continue. Arise and welcome the sons of your Islamic Revolution so that together you can demolish the fortresses of the 'Aflaqi tyrants and the Saddamist infidels, and establish the government of divine justice that guarantees the dignity and pride of all Muslims and terrifies the satanical entities in the region. By God, it is an escalating Islamic Revolution until victory or martyrdom. God is great, victory is for Islam; death to the tyrant Saddam and his masters, the vile Zionists.

Radio Iran Cites Tudeh Publication on New Deaths

GF221814 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT
22 Oct 83

[Text] The Tudeh Party claims to have lost another member in the prisons of the Islamic Regime. According to *Rah-e Tudeh* publication, Akbar Baghban, a party official in Khorasan, and two other party members have died under torture.

The Tudeh Party's Central Committee in Exile also reported that the secretary general of the U.S. Communist Party, Gus Hall, has sent a message to Ayatollah Khomeyni through the Iranian interests section at the Algerian Embassy in Washington, asking him to let the Tudeh's out of prison. In his letter, he voiced support for Ruhollah Khomeyni's regime.